

Champlain Street Cemetery of Temple Beth El

Aka: Michigan Oldest Jewish Cemetery

Address: 3371 E. Lafayette

Local

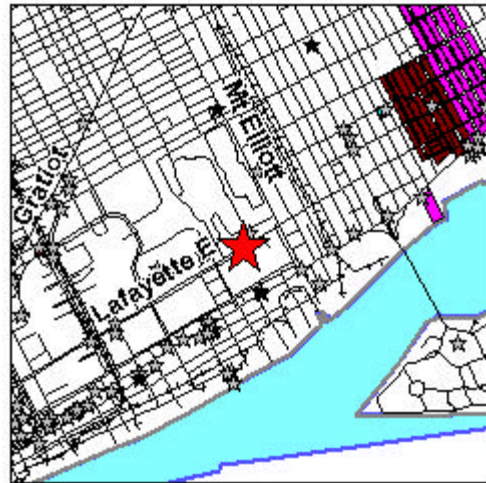
State v 8/14/62

State Marker v 4/16/73

National



Michigan's Oldest Jewish Cemetery, 2003



Historic Overview:

Beth El, the first Jewish Congregation in Michigan, was organized in Detroit on September 22, 1850 by 12 families. This half-acre cemetery, dedicated on January 1, 1851 was know then as "The Champlain Street Cemetery of Temple Beth El" because Lafayette was formerly called Champlain Street. The first interment was in fall of 1851 and in 1854 Samuel Marcus, the first rabbi of Beth El, was buried here. The cemetery, containing many graves of Jewish war veterans was in use until the 1950's.

Text as written on Michigan Historical Marker.